What is claimed is:

1. A pharmaceutical composition for oral administration comprising a δ-amino-γ-hydroxy-ω-aryl-alkanoic acid amide renin inhibitor in an absorption enhancing carrier medium comprising:

(a) a lipophilic component;

(b) a high HLB surfactant; and

(c) a hydrophilic component;

which composition upon admixing forms a stable microemulsion preconcentrate.

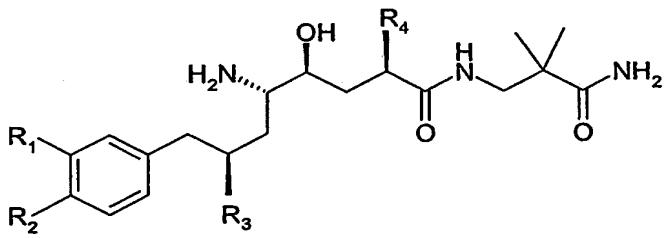
2. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 1, wherein the lipophilic component comprises a low HLB surfactant.

3. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 2, wherein the lipophilic component comprises a low HLB surfactant which is a based on a medium or a long chain fatty acid, or a mixture of fatty acids thereof, and an oil which is a medium or a long chain fatty acid triglyceride, or a mixture of triglycerides thereof.

4. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 3, wherein the lipophilic component comprises a low HLB surfactant which is based on a medium chain fatty acid, or a mixture of fatty acids thereof, and an oil which is a medium chain fatty acid triglyceride, or a mixture of triglycerides thereof.

5. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 4, wherein the microemulsion preconcentrate is in the form of a water-in-oil microemulsion which upon administration or dilution with an aqueous medium spontaneously converts to an oil-in-water microemulsion.

6. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 4, wherein the δ-amino-γ-hydroxy-ω-aryl-alkanoic acid amide renin inhibitor has the formula



(I)

wherein R_1 is C_{1-4}alkoxy-C_{1-4}alkoxy or C_{1-4}alkoxy-C_{1-4}alkyl; R_2 is C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-4}alkoxy; and R_3 and R_4 are independently branched C_{3-4}alkyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

7. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 6, wherein the δ-amino-γ-hydroxy-ω-aryl-alkanoic acid amide renin inhibitor is a compound of formula (I) wherein R_1 is 3-methoxypropoxy; R_2 is methoxy; and R_3 and R_4 are isopropyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

8. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 7, wherein the δ-amino-γ-hydroxy-ω-aryl-alkanoic acid amide renin inhibitor is (2S,4S,5S,7S)-5-amino-4-hydroxy-2-isopropyl-7-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-8-methyl-nonanoic acid (2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propyl)-amide hemifumarate.

9. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 8, wherein the microemulsion preconcentrate is in the form of a water-in-oil microemulsion which upon administration or dilution with an aqueous medium spontaneously converts to an oil-in-water microemulsion.

10. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 6, wherein the medium chain fatty acids of the lipophilic component have from 8 to 12 carbon atoms.

11. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 10, wherein the oil is selected from propylene glycol di-caprylate/caprate and glyceryl tri-caprylate/caprate.

12. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 6, wherein the low HLB surfactant has an HLB value ranging from about 2.5 to about 6.

13. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 6, wherein the high HLB surfactant has an HLB value ranging from about 13 to about 20.

14. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 13, wherein the high HLB surfactant is selected from polysorbat 80, macrogol-15 hydroxystearate, vitamin E-TPGS and polyoxyl 40 hydrogenated castor oil.

15. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 6, wherein the hydrophilic phase comprises PEG 300.

16. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 15, wherein the medium chain fatty acids of the lipophilic component have from 8 to 12 carbon atoms.

17. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 16, wherein the low HLB surfactant has an HLB value ranging from about 2.5 to about 6.

18. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 17, wherein the high HLB surfactant has an HLB value ranging from about 13 to about 20.

19. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 18, wherein the δ-amino-γ-hydroxy-ω-aryl-alkanoic acid amide renin inhibitor is a compound of formula (I) wherein R_1 is 3-methoxypropoxy; R_2 is methoxy; and R_3 and R_4 are isopropyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

20. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 19, wherein the oil is selected from propylene glycol di-caprylate/caprate and glyceryl tri-caprylate/caprate.

21. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 19, wherein the high HLB surfactant is selected from polysorbat 80, macrogol-15 hydroxystearate, vitamin E-TPGS and polyoxyl 40 hydrogenated castor oil.

22. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 19, wherein the δ-amino-γ-hydroxy-ω-aryl-alkanoic acid amide renin inhibitor is (2S,4S,5S,7S)-5-amino-4-hydroxy-2-isopropyl-7-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-8-methyl-nonanoic acid (2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propyl)-amide hemifumarate.

23. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 22, wherein the oil is selected from propylene glycol di-caprylate/caprate and glyceryl tri-caprylate/caprate.

24. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 23, wherein the high HLB surfactant is selected from polysorbat 80, macrogol-15 hydroxystearate, vitamin E-TPGS and polyoxyl 40 hydrogenated castor oil.

25. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 24, wherein the microemulsion preconcentrate is in the form of a water-in-oil microemulsion which upon administration or dilution with an aqueous medium spontaneously converts to an oil-in-water microemulsion.

26. A method for the treatment of hypertension, congestive heart failure, cardiac hypertrophy, cardiac fibrosis, cardiomyopathy postinfarction, complications resulting from diabetes, such as nephropathy, vasculopathy and neuropathy, diseases of the coronary vessels, restenosis following angioplasty, raised intra-ocular pressure, glaucoma, abnormal vascular growth, hyperaldosteronism, anxiety states and cognitive disorders which method comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 1-24 or 25 to a patient in need thereof.

27. A pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 1-24 or 25, for use as medicament.

28. Use of a pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 1-24 or 25, for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of conditions associated with renin activity.